

VZCZCXRO8217
OO RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM RUEHNH
DE RUEHKL #0955 3290930
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 250930Z NOV 09
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3511
INFO RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA IMMEDIATE 0179
RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 2876
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0689
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1157

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 000955

SIPDIS

EAP/MTS, NEA/FO FOR ELISA CATALANO, AND ISN/RA FOR RICHARD
NEPHEW

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/25/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [IAEA](#) [KNNP](#) [IR](#) [MY](#)

SUBJECT: IRAN: MALAYSIA NON-COMMITTAL ON SUPPORTING GERMAN
IAEA RESOLUTION

REF: A. STATE 120288 -- IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM

[1](#)B. KUALA LUMPUR 822 -- MALAYSIAN VIEWS ON IRAN

[1](#)C. STEVE MULL EMAIL (NOTAL) NOVEMBER 24

[1](#)D. 2009

Classified By: Political Counselor Brian D. McFeeters for reasons 1.4 b
and d.

[1](#)1. (C) In the absence of the Foreign Minister and MFA
Secretary General (both away on overseas travel), the
Ambassador conveyed ref A and C points on the German IAEA
resolution and U.S. overall concerns about Iran's nuclear
program to Deputy Foreign Minister Kohilan Pillay by phone on
November 25. Pillay, a political appointee with a limited
substantive portfolio, listened attentively to the
Ambassador's presentation, but offered no substantive reply
to our points.

[1](#)2. (C) Polcouns and Poloff met later on November 25 with
Shazryll Zahiran, Principal Assistant Secretary in the MFA's
Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Section, to follow-up on
the Ambassador's presentation to the Deputy FM. Shazryll
indicated that his government was familiar with the issues
and had already received a copy of the draft resolution
proposed by Germany pertaining to Iran. Although Shazryll
emphasized that no final decision had been made, he said his
government was giving "positive consideration" to supporting
Germany's resolution, noting the GOM's desire to see the
standoff with Iran resolved "amicably." In reply to ref A
points, Shazryll said he understood that further pressure on
Iran may be needed and assured us that he would pass our
concerns to the highest levels of the MFA, as well as to the
Prime Minister's aides who are currently with him in
Washington DC for an unofficial visit.

[1](#)3. (C) Polcouns pressed Shazryll on whether or not the GOM
considered the German proposal amicable enough for the GOM to
support it. Shazryll replied that he could not say more
because "the Non-Aligned Movement(NAM) is still looking into
this." He noted that NAM support will depend on the context
of the resolution, and that Malaysia will not make any
decisions until it has consulted with NAM partners. Shazryll
hedged on whether the GOM felt obligated to align itself with
the NAM majority. When queried about which specific NAM
partners the GOM engages with on this issue, he did not reply.

[1](#)4. (C) Shazryll told Polcouns that the GOM remained
"confused" by Iran's reaction to the Teheran Research Reactor
(TRR) proposal, adding that Iran was sending mixed messages
about whether it would agree to the proposal, and, if not,
what its objections were. He added that the GOM had not

engaged Iran on the TRR proposal directly.

¶5. (C) Shazryll commented that the MFA had not yet provided instructions to Arshad Hussein, Malaysia's Ambassador to the IAEA, on the German IAEA resolution, but would do so after further consultations. Noting that Arshad was also the new Chairman of the Board of Governors of the IAEA, Shazryll said that Arshad placed great importance on acting objectively in that capacity. Shazryll reiterated that he would dutifully convey to his superiors, and to Prime Minister Najib's aides in Washington, the U.S. request that Malaysia support the German resolution.

¶6. (C) The British High Commission briefed the DCM on their interactions today with the MFA on the Iran IAEA resolution issue. They heard a very similar non-committal message from Shazryll and also that the NAM had not yet coordinated its position. The British, like us, have had equal difficulty in accessing senior levels of the MFA on this issue, in part because many senior officials are on travel. The French DCM communicated a similar message to us on the results of their demarche to Shazryll Nov. 25.

KEITH